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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Selectmen and School Committee

OF THE

TOWN OF MEREDITH,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1870.

DEMOCRAT PRESS, LACONIA.
1870.

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REPORT.

Town of Meredith in Account with the Selectmen:

By amount in Selectmen's hands as reported March 1, 1869,	$10,298 68
Saving's Bank Tax,	378 30
Railroad Tax,	245 72
Literary Fund,	78 00
United States Bounties,	180 00
Assessment of State Tax,	2,808 00
County Tax,	1,297 92
Interest on Debt,	4,000 00
School Tax required by law,	1,170 00
School money by vote of Town,	150 00
Repair of town house,	200 00
Repair Pauper roads, as voted,	100 00
Current expenses,	2,000 00
Percentage allowed by law,	360 97
Dog Tax,	105 00
Received for use of Town Hall,	12 25
Received of Albert Busiel,	4 50
Received of County,	108 50
Received by note, of Town,	23,565 91
	$47,063 75

Paid for Paupers in and out of Town to March 1, 1870.

Dr. J. H. Sanborn, for Hannah Ladd,	$4 50
J. W. Cogswell, for support Prescott girl, 1868,	25 00
Dr. J. H. Sanborn, for Hazen Bryant,	10 00
Isaac Farrar,	3 00
Daniel P. Smith, for Prescott boy, 1868,	35 00

William H. Sanborn, for Sarah Prescott, 1869,	10 00
Dr. J. H. Sanborn, for Hannah Ladd,	9 00
Rufus Veasey, for support of Prescott girl and Smith Leavitt, one year,	125 00
John R. Tilton, support of G. W. Ham's family,	22 00
Dr. Geo. Sanborn, for Mrs. Boynton and others,	15 33
C. S. Prescott, for H. Plummer, Prescott boy and Dolly Bean,	18 75
J. W. Cogswell, for support of Prescott girl in 1869, no charge hereafter,	25 00
Dr. Brown, for Mrs. J. Boynton,	22 00
Jonathan Thompson, for Hiram Thompson,	52 00
Support of County Paupers,	108 50
	$485 08

General Expenditures.

Paid State Tax,	2,808 00
County Tax,	1,297 92
Jos. E. Mudgett, for guide boards,	1 00
N. B. Plummer, watering-trough,	1 00
Peter Severance, guide-boards,	4 21
E. A. Hibbard, for advice,	1 00
Wamesit Engine Co.,	70 50
Wamesit Engine Co., by vote of town,	260 00
T. P. Robinson, damage of wagon,	6 00
C. H. Cummings, for oil, &c.,	77
H. H. Eastman, car fare and expenses, 1868–9,	14 55
Joseph Ela, services as Auditor,	2 00
Chas. P. Towle, services as Auditor,	2 00
Esquire Clark, for board of Selectmen,	12 00
Dr. Geo. Sanborn, recording deaths and births,	4 50
Dr. D. F. Moore, injury to horse,	65 00
C. F. Winch, for blanks,	7 50
Geo. S. Clough, services as police,	6 00
Philip McCrillis, sawing wood,	75
E. C. Eastman, books,	2 40
O. A. J. Vaughn, auction bills and check lists,	19 00
" " printing reports, 1869,	40 00
F. L. Nickerson, services as police,	8 00
Dr. J. H. Sanborn, recording deaths and births,	4 00
J. Dearborn, watering-trough,	3 00
C. S. Prescott, for board of Selectmen, 1868,	29 75
T. S. Moses, funnel and repairing stove,	10 78

Paid Frank Canny, discount on auction bill,	46 28
B. D. Plaisted & Co.,	25
J. H. Plaisted, services as police,	10 00
J. S. Sanborn, watering-trough, 1868–9,	6 00
D. S. Bedee, services as Collector,	10 00
E. C. Eastman, books,	2 50
R. M. Nichols, sheep killed by dogs,	4 00
S. D. Pease, " "	3 00
Sam'l Hutchins, " "	5 00
Thomas Cate, " "	4 00
B. S. Tuttle, " "	3 00
H. S. Swain, services as School Committee,	20 00
Chas. S. Wiggin, stationery,	2 68
John Wadleigh, watering-trough, four years,	4 00
Dr. Geo. Sanborn, services as School Committee,	50 00
Joseph Ela, services as committee to examine town notes,	12 00
J. Sullerway, for legal service in defending division of town,	20 00
Josiah H. Prescott, services as Town Clerk,	50 00
Chas. S. Prescott, services as Selectman from March 1, 1869, to March 1, 1870,	225 00
Chas. S. Prescott, team and expenses on town business,	30 00
Ebenezer T. Blake, services as Selectman from March 1, 1869, to March 1, 1870,	176 00
Ebenezer T. Blake, team and car fare,	18 85
Rufus Clark, services as selectman from March 9, 1869, to March 1, 1870,	81 00
Rufus Clark, teams and expenses,	18 33
	$5,483 52
Amount of notes against the town, paid,	$31,689 84

Paid for Roads and Bridges.

Abram Bryant, labor on road,	$6 00
B. P. Philbrick, breaking roads,	15 00
A. B. Eastman, "	5 53
William S. Smith, "	14 80
William Chase, "	4 00
L. A. Colby, "	8 10
Smith Lawrence, plank,	20 32
Jacob Smith, labor on road	2 00

T. L. Leavitt, breaking roads 1868–9,	3 00
Ira E. Gordon, "	50
L. B. Thompson "	17 84
Evans & Hancock, labor on road,	4 50
Warren Sanborn and others, labor on road,	13 50
E. S. Edgerly, "	13 34
John Knowlton, breaking pauper roads 1868–9,	22 54
B. C. Batchelder, breaking roads,	18 80
W. S. Smith and others, labor on roads,	18 00
J. C. Wadleigh and others, labor on pauper roads,	50 07
N. B. Plummer, breaking roads,	18 38
E. T. Blake, labor on road (Marston's District),	65 00
Chas. A Randlett, plank for bridge,	2 16
D. W. Coe, labor on road,	3 25
T. D. Veasey, "	2 20
A. H. Pitman, plank for bridge,	9 40
John Webster, stone culverts,	9 56
Chase Fogg, labor on Cass Hill,	8 50
Moses R. Chase, labor on roads,	44 76
Jesse Dolloff, breaking roads,	9 49
S. K. Philbrick, labor on roads,	4 00
Lucian Kelley and others, breaking roads,	28 07
Lucian Kelley, watering trough,	3 00
John H. Batchelder, breaking roads,	4 50
E. H. Swain, labor on Harbor Road,	5 00
E. Berry, " "	1 00
T. L. Smith, labor on road,	32 50
John C. Gove, "	6 00
Dudley S. Piper, "	9 82
H. D. Sanborn, breaking roads,	8 00
Eben T. Blake, " 1868,	6 20
Moses R. Chase, split stone for bridges,	39 66
Eben Collins, labor on road,	2 50
C. W. Smith, labor on Cass Hill,	16 01
Joshua W. Payne, labor on road,	1 50
Joseph Prescott, "	5 00
Wm. H. Wadleigh, "	1 50
John Knowlton, labor on road and bridge,	5 00
Samuel T. Johnson, labor on Cass Hill,	1 57
James Hoyt, " "	2 55
Moses R. Chase, labor on road,	39 50
Thomas L. Smith, breaking pauper roads,	7 50
J. S. Pease, breaking roads,	6 98
N. B. Wadleigh, plank,	154 61
E. W. Corliss, labor on culverts,	6 00
Chas. S. Prescott, labor on roads and bridges,	19 60
Philip McCrillis, labor on road,	2.00

John B. Swain, labor on road,	5 00
D. F. Norris, breaking road,	1 80
N. B. Wadleigh, labor on road,	4 00
Samuel T. Crane, breaking roads,	9 90
	$850 81

Paid for the Repair of Roads and Bridges, on account of Freshet.

J. C. Wadleigh,	25 00
T. L. Smith,	32 00
John Page,	7 39
B. C. Batchelder,	20 25
John J. Tasker,	22 75
Moses Chapman,	25 00
Zeph'a P. Eaton,	4 50
E. T. Blake,	38 75
John Dearborn,	2 50
Jona. Brown,	22 50
J. L. Swain,	11 40
John L. Russell,	21 30
D. N. Drake,	3 00
Jos. W. Robinson,	25 00
Eben'r T. Blake,	46 75
Frank Chase,	9 00
M. R. Chase,	6 45
M. C. Pease,	23 23
John W. Eastman,	11 50
John Knowlton,	1 75
Rufus Clark,	11 90
Jos. S. Neal,	62 66
	$434 58

Paid for Schools.

John S. Roberts,	District Nos. 1 and 2,	75 54
Jos. R. Mead,	" " 3,	85 27
Charles P. Towle,	" " 4,	125 67
D. S. Bedee and J. N. True,	" " 5,	405 94
John Dearborn,	" " 6,	84 13

David Corliss, Jr.,	District No. 7,	42 45
Noah L. Sinclair,	" " 8,	95 92
Charles R. Swain,	" " 9,	50 80
Warren L. Glidden,	" " 10,	66 09
Moses R. Chase,	" " 11,	42 22
Jos. E. Mudgett,	" " 12,	67 92
Benjamin B. Philbrick,	" " 13,	25 29
Henry F. Swift,	" " 14,	38 01
D. R. Caverly,	" " 15,	39 67
Ira E. Gordon,	" " 16,	37 33
David Brown,	" " 17,	40 20
Sanbornton,	" " 18,	3 73
Rufus L. Coe,	" " 20,	60 84
		$1,387 02

RECAPITULATION.

By whole amount of Receipts,		$47,063 75
To whole amount paid out, as follows:		
Notes and interest,	31,689 84	
Pauper bills,	485 08	
General Expenditures,	5,483 52	
Roads and Bridges,	850 81	
On account of Freshet,	434 58	
For Schools,	1,387 02	
This amount,		40,330 85
Deducted from the receipts, leaves a balance of		$6,732 90
Which is accounted for as follows:		
Due on A. A. Kidder's book, 1867,	53 33	
" " " 1868,	490 54	
Daniel P. Smith's book, 1867,	221 73	
Robert C. Pike's book, 1868,	310 45	
" " " 1869,	796 36	
Edwin Cox's book, 1869,	2,054 88	
Due from Banks, for tax on stock, 1867,	83 85	
Balance in Selectmen's hands, cash and notes,	2,721 76	
		$6,732 90

Notes and interest outstanding against the town, estimated by Selectmen, forty-six thousand dollars, $46,000 00

Having examined the accounts of the Selectmen, we find them correctly cast and properly vouched.

J. A. LANG,
P. D. BLAISDELL, } *Auditors.*

The foregoing report is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES S. PRESCOTT,
EBENEZER T. BLAKE,
RUFUS CLARK, } *Selectmen of Meredith.*

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

To the citizens of Meredith the following report is respectfully submitted:

The progress in the several schools in the town of Meredith has been generally satisfactory. Still, many imperfections exist in the general management and method of teaching in our schools.

In chapter 81, section 15, of the General Statutes, Prudential Committees and teachers can find some prescribed duties, which have been entirely disregarded in this town. We find nothing in the laws relating to management of common schools, rendering it obligatory on the part of Prudential Committees to employ relatives, near or remote, to teach. It has often occured to the Committee that persons "out of the family" gave as good satisfaction.

We deem it essential that persons proposing to teach should present to the Committee, in place of *self-conceit*, a substantial knowledge of the branches required to be taught by law, and in place of certificates of literary attainments, from late teachers and former committees, certificates of good morals, habits, deportment, etc. Committees presume to know what literary qualifications are required.

Peasons using tobacco in the school-room, smoking, chewing, or taking snuff, better be engaged in some out-door vocation remote from neighbors of cleanly habits, than indulging in its use in presence of children.

Your Committee beg leave to congratulate the parents and children of Meredith in change of Readers and Spellers. Wilson's Series of Readers and Spellars have been introduced in all schools in town, except in one union district. In this series of Readers are combined all necessary rules for teaching elocutionary reading, and examples calculated to instruct youths in Natural History, Philosophy, and many other things a child will learn (the same readily understood) of great practical importance. The selections alone in Wilson's Readers render them superior to all others yet examined by the Committee, and we claim that they are not inferior to others in any particular.

GEORGE SANBORN,
FRANCIS M. CAWLEY,
HOSEA S. SWAIN,
} *School Committee.*

District Nos. 1 and 2.

Two terms. Summer term was taught by Miss Sarah M. Noyes, of Meredith. Her school was quiet and the progress good. Mr. F. M. Cawley, of Meredith, taught the winter term: progress good.

District No. 3.

Winter term was taught by Mr. F. M. Cawley, of Meredith, progress good. There are a few superior scholars in this school. This school is not closed.

District No. 5.

The winter term of the advanced department was taught by Mr. E. C. Burbeck. In this school good order was secured and sustained. But by bringing all on the same line many left school. Parents should consider tha order was the first law established by the Creator, and without it nothing can be accomplished, and when they are willing to help sustain the same they will elevate their schools and society.

The winter term of primary department was taught by Miss M. Ellen Bedee, of Meredith. This is her second term of school and she bids fair to make an efficient teacher; order good. The progress of the pupils was commendable.

District No. 6.

The winter term was taught by Miss Viola R. Kimball, of Tilton. She is an efficient teacher. Her pupils were (at the close of the school) orderly and idustrious.

District No. 9.

The winter term was commenced by Mrs. Carrie D. Knapp, of Meredith, but left on account of poor health. Miss Fannie A. Scribner was engaged to finish the school. Her reading classes excel, order very poor. Whispering the leading fault.

District No. 20.

This is a union district with Centre Harbor and Moultonborough. Miss J. E. Stevens, of Sandwich, taught both terms. Miss Stevens is a teacher of great experience. Thorough, kind, yet firm in her manner of governing, and the result of her efforts as teacher none do excel.

FRANCIS M. CAWLEY,
School Committee.

District No. 12.

Both terms were taught by Miss Mary C. Robinson, of Laconia. She has had some experience in teaching, and her efforts in this district have been attended with a very fair degree of success. Her government was mild, yet efficient. This is a good school, and the progress of the scholars was very good.

District No. 13.

One term, nine weeks in length, taught by Miss Laura J. Doe, of New Hampton. The order in this school was as it should be; and the progress of the scholars was very excellent.

District No. 14. (Union with New Hampton.)

Two short terms under the charge of Miss Olive A. Colby, of Grantham. This was her first experience in teaching. The school was very small, and it seemed beyond the power of the teacher to *create* an interest necessary to a brilliant success.

District No. 15.

One term. This was under the instruction of Miss Anna S. Wilson, of New Hampton. This was her first attempt at teaching. She seemed to secure the good will of her pupils, and obtained a fair degree of success. There was a little lack in discipline and decision in teaching. The school was somewhat broken by sickness, consequently less progress was made.

District No. 16.

One term, which was taught by Miss Alice Woodman, of Sanbornton. She has had but little experience in teaching, but has conducted this school with a very good degree of success, with acceptance to the district generally, and with profit to the children under her charge.

District No. 17.

One term. This was under the charge of Miss Addie M. Brown, of Sanbornton. Your Committee cannot report so good progress in this school as might be desired.

Respectfully submitted,

H. S. SWAIN.

District No. 3.

The summer term was taught by Miss Mary J. Prescott, of that district. Order very good and progress fair.

District No. 4.

The summer and winter terms were taught by Miss Sarah Taylor, of Sanbornton. This school needs a more energetic system of instruction to develop the latent energies of the scholars.

District No. 5. (Graded.)

The higher department in summer was under the instruction of Miss Elvena D. Sanborn, of Gilford, who is a very successful teacher. The larger scholars in this department need to be under a more rigid discipline. They seem to never have learned what is a proper deportment in the school-room.

The summer term in the lower department was taught by Miss Lydia A. Lee, of Moultonboro'. Considering the number of small scholars, the school was orderly and progress satisfactory.

District No. 7. (Union with Laconia.)

The summer and winter terms were taught by Miss L. Jennie Gould, of Tyngsboro', Mass. Order good and progress extraordinary.

District No. 8.

The summer term was taught by Miss L. Jennie Gould. Order and progress ordinary.

The winter term was under the instruction of Miss Ellen A. Lovejoy, of Meredith, a good teacher. The progress in this school was satisfactory.

District No. 10.

One term, taught by Miss Josephine Glidden, of that district. Order very good, and progress better than ordinary.

District No. 11.

The one term was taught by Miss Fannie A. Scribner, of Franklin. This term was a success. Order was secured, recitations almost perfect, and progress extraordinary.

GEORGE SANBORN,
Visiting Committee.

No. of District.	Summer School.	Winter School.	Names of Teachers.	Length of School in weeks.	No. of Scholars.	Average Attendance.	Money Appropriated.	Average to Scholars.	No. of times Tardy.	Dismissals.
1	1		Sarah M. Noyes.	6	18	15 4-5			29	13
2		1	F. M. Cawley.	7	24	21 5-39	75.54	3.59	60	35
3	1		M. J. Prescott.	7	14	12 4-7			4	6
		1	F. M. Cawley.	10	19	†	85.27	5.33	†	†
4	1		Sarah Taylor.	8	29	23	125.67		34	7
		1	Sarah Taylor.	8	34	28		4.05	14	17
5	1		Elvena D. Sanborn.	10	32	20	405.92		30	47
	1		Lydia A. Lee.	10	71	51 43-50			50	37
		1	E. C. Burbeck.	8	37	23 7-10		4.60	194	22
		1	M. E. Beede.	8	35	29			108	‡
6	1		Viola R. Kimball.	10	19	16 1-2	84.13	4.43	0	4
7	1		L. J. Gould.	7	25	23 5-7			50	7
		1	L. J. Gould.	6	20	16	42.45		31	5
8	1		L. J. Gould.	6	34	28 2-10			40	4
		1	E. A. Lovejoy.	9 4-5	25	21 5-8	95.92	3.43	84	16
9		1	F. A. Scribner.	7	29	24	50.80	1.89	14	4
10		1	J. Glidden.	*			66.09			
11		1	F. A. Scribner.	9	15	13	42.22	2.81	17	7
12	1		M. J. Robinson.	6	15	13			10	4
		1	M. J. Robinson.	6	15	14	67.92	4.52	9	4
13		1	L. J. Doe.	9	9	8	25.29	2.81	0	3
14	1		Olive A. Colby.	8	13	8			12	1
		1	Olive A. Colby.	5	7	5	38.01	3.80	1	2
15		1	A. S. Wilson.	9	10	8	39.67	3.96	12	13
16		1	A. Woodman.	10	16	13	37.33	2.33	7	5
17		1	A. M. Brown.	9	17	15	40.20	2.36	8	0
20	1		J. E. Stevens.	9	43	33	60.84		15	26
		1	J. E. Stevens.	13	56	44			86	39

* Register not returned. † Not closed. ‡ No record.

GEORGE SANBORN,
FRANCIS M. CAWLEY,
HOSEA S. SWAIN,
} *School Committee.*

MEREDITH, FEB. 28, 1870.